

OUTGOING MESSAGE

COMINT

Approved For Release 2001/08/08 : CIA-RDP78S01932A000100130092-3

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TO: IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE//EVACUATION BOOK FOR MR FAZIO.

WARNING NOTICE SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS

INVOLVED: 1

ITEM #01 14-2

DATE: 26 JUNE 1974

SUBJECT: PANAMIAN GUIDELINES OR NEW DRAFT TREATY PROPOSAL

PERF: 1

25X1A THE TEAM WHICH FOREIGN MINISTER TACK DIRECTED TO PREPARE A DRAFT OF A NEW PANAMA CANAL TREATY HAS AGREED ON THE GENERAL OUTLINE OF THE PACT. THE PANAMANIANS CONTINUE TO WANT JURISDICTION IN SOME AREAS TRANSFERRED AS SOON AS A NEW TREATY IS SIGNED, BUT ARE WILLING TO LET THE US RETAIN JURISDICTION IN OTHER MATTERS--SUCH AS MAINTAINING THE SECURITY OF THE CANAL--FOR A LONGER PERIOD, POSSIBLY UNDER AN ARRANGEMENT OF JOINT US-PANAMANIAN JURISDICTION.

4 THEY FAVOR CREATION OF A BILATERAL COMMISSION--IN WHICH THE PANAMANIANS GRADUALLY WOULD HOLD THE MAJORITY--TO ADMINISTER THE CANAL FOR THE DURATION OF THE TREATY. THE ADVISORS RECOMMEND GIVING THE US A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD TO DECIDE ON A PLAN FOR EXPANDING

DATE:

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THE CANAL, AND THE TWO COUNTRIES WOULD THEN NEGOTIATE THE DETAILS. THE NEW CANAL WORKS WOULD BE INITIATED WITHIN 20 YEARS FROM THE SIGNING OF THE TREATY.

IN GENERAL, THE ADVISORY TEAM HAS STUCK CLOSELY TO THE POSITIONS PRESSED BY PANAMA DURING THE LAST DECADE OF NEGOTIATIONS. MANY OF THEIR PROPOSALS PARALLEL PROVISIONS IN THE DRAFT TREATIES DRAWN UP BY THE US AND PANAMA IN 1967 WHICH NEITHER GOVERNMENT ~~HAD~~ RATIFIED. THE PANAMANIANS SUGGESTED A JOINT COMMISSION TO ADMINISTER THE CANAL PROBABLY BECAUSE THEY RECOGNIZE THAT THE US WILL INSIST ON CONTROL OF CANAL OPERATIONS FOR THE DURATION OF A TREATY, AND THE COMMISSION WOULD GIVE PANAMA AT LEAST A VOICE.

GIVING THE US 20 YEARS TO START EXPANSION OF THE PRESENT CANAL--OR POSSIBLY THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SEA-LEVEL CANAL--IS CONSISTENT WITH PANAMA'S DESIRE THAT THE TREATY COVERING THE PRESENT CANAL SHOULD EXPIRE BEFORE THE TURN OF THE CENTURY. THE TEAM'S RECOMMENDATION FOR A TREATY IS ONLY PART OF THE STRATEGY TAG AND GENERAL TORRIJOS WILL CONSIDER IT IN FORMULATING THEIR FINAL POSITION IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH AMBASSADOR GUNKER. E-D IMPDET.

DATE: 28 JULY 78

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